

CLAIMS:

Having thus disclosed my invention, what I claim is new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

Claim 1. The combination of a shoe having a heel of one or more inches and a resilient footbed removably received in the shoe wherein the shoe comprises a forward toe box for receiving the toes of the wearer without pressure being exerted against them by the toe box in normal use of the shoes to dislocate the proximal and distal phalanges of the wearer's foot, a sole, a rear heel portion which grips and holds the wearer's heel firmly in a cradle-like arrangement above the calcaneus bone of the wearer's heel, the footbed having a configuration which conforms to the configuration of said sole comprising the insole at the bottom of the insertion of the shoe and which comprises a heel cup which distributes the pressure of the wearer's heel against said insole and contributes to the cradle-like disposition of the shoe's heel, a calcaneus-cuboid bar underlying the forward part of the calcaneus bone of the wearer, a metatarsal pad, an arch support and a bar under the wearer's toe sulcus, whereby the wearer's heel is firmly held in place and the foot is prevented from sliding forward so that the wearer's toes are not constricted in said forward toe box.

Claim 2. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said footbed further comprises a plurality of cavities disposed under the portion of said footbed which is received under the wearer's heel that increase the compressibility of said footbed at said portion.

Claim 3. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 comprising a plurality of cavities disposed under the area of said footbed which receives the wearer's joint between the first metatarsal bone and the adjacent proximal phalange that increase the compressibility of said footbed at said area.

Claim 4. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 comprising a plurality of cavities disposed at a location under said calcaneus-cuboid bar which distribute the pressure received at said location over a broader area.

Claim 5. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the underside of said footbed comprises a plurality of grooves extending inboard relative to the wearer's foot which increase the compressibility of the footbed.

Claim 6. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said shoe comprises a woman's pump.

Claim 7. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said heel of said shoe is of a height of between one and two inches.

Claim 8. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the height of said heel of said shoe is between two and three inches.

Claim 9. A combination in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the height of said heel of said shoe is greater than about three inches.